

Finance Committee
Monday, August 24, 2020
5:30 p.m., Rotunda

In attendance: J. Coyne - Chairman, E. Heffinger, P. Rose, and J. Shields. B. Lamb, D. Simpson and J. Hazeltine

Also present: Mayor Hanwell, Greg Huber, Keith Dirham, Patrick Patton, Nino Piccoli, and Kathy Patton, Debra Hallock, Stanley Scheetz, Jansen Wehrley, Dan Gladish, Bruce Gold, Chief Kinney

1. Assignment of Requests for Council Action

2. 20-160-8/24 - Budget Amendments

- a) Current year Carryforward reductions from 6/24 budget hearing
Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.
- b) Accept Check from Cleveland Area Mountain Biking Assoc.
Mr. Dirham stated this is a pass through of \$2000.00. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

3. 20-161-8/24 – Purchase Dodge Durango SUV for Building Dept.

Mr. Gladish stated this is to replace a 2010 Ford Escape. The Dodge Durango was the best price being \$5,000 less than the equivalent Ford Explorer. Mr. Rose questioned why the larger vehicle and Dan stated they are multiple certified and need the larger vehicles and the Ford Escape is a smaller vehicle and they need to carry twice even three times the amount in tools and books. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

4. 20-162-8/24 – Expenditure Over \$15,000 – Job Creation Grant, Friction Products

Jonathon Mendel stated this is a Job Creation Grant to authorize the grant payment to Friction Products for tax year 2019 in the amount of \$18,750.06. This grant is a result of their 150,000 sq. ft. expansion for enhanced steel processing and warehousing. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

5. 20-163-8/24 – Expenditure Over \$15,000 – Job Creation Grant, Progressive Medina LLC

Jonathon Mendel stated this is to authorize a job creation grant payment to Progressive Medina LLC to tax year 2019 in the amount of \$15,443.00. This company relocated their business to the City of Medina and constructed a 70 bed skilled nursing facility at 699 East Smith Road. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

6. 20-164-8/24 – Grant Application Ohio EPA – Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Mr. Patton stated as council has known all along, they have planned to install electric vehicle charging stations in the new parking deck. During construction they provided the necessary electrical service, and they have installed the conduit necessary from their control room out to where the charging stations will be. They planned all along for Ohio EPA grant monies provided

by their Volkswagen settlement. These grants were finally released in July with the grant application due by September 30th and would need the emergency clause due to time constraints. Mr. Rose questioned what the purpose of having all the chargers networked, is it strictly for using charge cards or what? Mr. Patton stated he doesn't really know but will get an answer. Paul asked who is responsible for having customer support for those devices. Patrick stated he would assume similar to the Airport where they have a firm that processes the credit card statements and they take care of everything and we pay for that service and we have an ongoing maintenance for the devices themselves. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

7. 20-165-8/24 – Purchase 2 Ford Explorer Interceptors for Police Dept.

Chief Kinney stated this is for 2 Interceptors for a total request of \$56,046.80 and purchase is budgeted. Mr. Rose asked if we can get more for the trade in if we put them into the auction. Chief Kinney stated typically no. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

8. 20-166-8/24 – Trade-in 2 Police Vehicles – Lebanon Ford

Chief Kinney stated he is requesting approval to trade-in two 2015 police cruisers. Unit 105 has 120,972 miles and Unit 107 has 118,674 miles and to accept \$8,000.00 toward the purchase of two replacement police cruisers with Lebanon Ford. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

9. 20-167-8/24 – 2020 City Auction

Nino Piccoli stated this is their annual request for authorization to have the city auction and they will provide the date and list prior to the next council meeting. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

10. 20-168-8/24 – Interurban Building Improvement Agreement – Medina CDC

Mr. Mendel stated this Interurban Building is located on South Court Street on city land. The CDC along with Main Street Medina are using grant dollars through Main Street Medina to help do a rehabilitation job. Historic Preservation Board approved the proposed repainting scheme. An improvement agreement between The City of Medina and Medina Community Design Committee should be executed since it is work being done by a private entity and a private contractor on city property. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

11. 20-169-8/24 – Revocable Use Permit – Medina Brew Company for Sign

Mr. Mendel stated that current code does not permit a projecting sign on the first floor portion extending over the public right-of-way of South Court Street. The Board of Zoning Appeals approved two options where they can put all three of those signs above the first floor portion of the west façade of the building which would be over private property or one hanging over the South Court Street public right-of-way. If they go with the one over public right-of-way they will have to get a revocable use permit through city council. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

12. 20-170-8/24 – Discussion – MCRC full-time 32 Hour Work Week

Mike Wright stated this is a discussion item only in regards to the Rec Center, the memberships are not back to where we hoped they would be by now since we opened back on June 1st. Members using the facility is still about only 49.5% we have not opened it up to non-members or

day passes. We are really feeling the impact of it. Keith Dirham gave them the numbers when this all started when we opened back up and we are probably using at least a half a million by the end of the year in carryforward to cover the lost revenues and that is a good number if not higher. So far the part-timers have been the only ones bearing the weight of all this. We have cut a bunch of positions and they have not returned yet. The full time staff is opening and closing the building and running it and are there the whole time it is open. Hours are still cut. Ideally Mike feels the full time staff should help with the expenses if it is possible, and he wants to be included in that. Mike is in hopes of getting an ordinance in place to begin the cuts December 19th, 2020 for the pay period starting in January.

Mr. Simpson asked if the 32 hour work week would be the worst case scenario at the end of the year if we are seeing the numbers steadily stay at that lower rate or not picking up at all. Mike stated worse case would be to lose a full time position and that is what he told the staff, if they can cut 8 hours out of your work week to save a full time position, isn't it worth it.

Mr. Rose thanked Mike for offering this suggestion, he said he understands it is tough especially when your home budget is affected. Paul feels if Mike can do it without too much harm, he is for it. Paul questioned the Mayor and Keith if there will be any other ramifications for the rest of the city employees?

Mayor Hanwell stated the unions are bound by collective bargaining agreements so no possibility for consideration, it would not set a precedent in his opinion because the rec center is an enterprise fund, whereas most of the other departments are not.

Mayor Hanwell asked council to keep in mind, and while he appreciates what Mike is trying to do here, but currently we are short one full time position that we have not filled since it vacated, so now you have the remaining full timers picking up that full time and all the part timers that have not come back. What he is telling everyone is that they are stretching these people pretty thin and now going to ask them to do it at 32 hours pay week verses the 40 hour pay week. Mayor Hanwell said he understands and appreciates the financial implications, but he asked Mike to direct the staff to look at any possible means be it day passes, special events, or incentives for memberships and do everything in our possible power to try to get the revenue back so we don't have to take this action. Mayor asked Mr. Shields being he has more HR experience than probably anyone in this room so if you have any opinions as to other things we may be able to try he respectfully ask for that.

Mr. Shields stated he is sitting here trying to think of different options because he would rather not put the staff in that position after all they have done to try and keep things afloat.

Mr. Simpson stated he knows it is hard to get people to feel comfortable to come back but maybe with the local media that is watching this meeting could maybe emphasize that the rec center, and he knows the staff, is already doing everything they can to make sure everything is sanitized and the public is safe to come back.

Mr. Coyne asked if this is a requirement that it absolutely has to be an 8 hour reduction or are you saying you would make a judgement call and maybe do 4 hours to start out with and see if you can raise revenue and maybe get a half a day off a week or do you have to go 8 hours off.

Mike stated the idea behind it is the 32 hours, that is exactly what the City of Strongsville did and

it seemed to work for them, they are going to start back after three months, they feel like their funds have come back enough with income tax and everything and their finance department cleared them to return to 40 hour work weeks next week. Mike stated that the Mayor mentioned about the staff working harder, but actually with the building having half the people in it, it's less for employees to do even the full time staff has less to do. Mike mentioned a lot of it is because of the state restrictions in place and can't do much until some of that is lifted.

Mr. Rose stated with regard to the outdoor pool and when it closes for the season, do you think that is going to positively impact the rec center by having more people come use the indoor rec pool? Mike feels that it will not because they are still required as a member to join, he will start the day passes here about mid-September and see if it draws people back.

Keith Dirham expressed the need for everyone to understand that this fund is by far the hardest hit by this Covid-19 crisis of all the funds we operate. Remember we were closed for a while and then we extended those memberships to reflect the closure time. The bulk of the revenue in this fund comes from those membership sales.

13. 20-171-8/24 – Spring Grove Cemetery Drainage Improvement Agreement

Mr. Wehrley stated this request is from the Friends of the Cemetery. They contracted with Cunningham and Associates to do a storm sewer and drainage analysis at Spring Grove. Cunningham took a look at all 33 acres and surveyed the drainage system identifying a number of problems 19 to be exact. Since 2019 the city has worked to correct a number of these issues but there were a few that were more involved than what we are capable of handling in house. Cunningham & Associates will be working to correct some of these issues. A draft for a drainage agreement has been finalized and we are looking to enter into an agreement with the Friends of the Cemetery for another project as Spring Grove and they will select their contractor, paying for the work and then at completion of project would like the city to accept the project as a gift. Mr. Shields moved to approve subject to the Law Directors final approval. Seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

14. 20-172-8/24 – W. Liberty Storm Sewer / City Hall Parking Deck Detention

Mr. Patton stated they have been struggling with this for a while. We need to provide detention for our new parking deck and for the future development that is going adjacent to Sully's on West Liberty. CPS was too high and they issued us a credit to non-perform this. Project will cost \$81,625 to extend this West Liberty Street storm sewer and then the installation of the detention system and the necessary storm sewers is \$75,000. Mr. Shields moved to approve with the emergency clause, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

15. 20-173-8/24 – LPA Project Agreement w/ODOT W. Smith Rd. Phase 4

Mr. Patton stated we received a federal grant in the amount of \$2,046,590.00 awarded by NOACA and managed by ODOT. In order for us to take control of the grant and project we have to come to a LPA agreement with ODOT this agreement allows us to bid and award the project with our own forces and this avoids having to pay ODOT to do that and we have done this several times in the past and it saves us money.

Mayor Hanwell stated within the last decade we would have replaced everything on West Smith Road from end to end significantly improving it and helping out our industry and even added an extra turn lane out at Owen Corning. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

16. 20-174-8/24 – W. Smith Rd., Phase 4 Design Services

Mr. Patton stated with a project of this size and because it has federal funds attached to it, the design engineer has to be prequalified through ODOT and in order for us to select a design engineer consultant we are required to go through a qualification base selection process. We did go through that process and received 13 proposals or letters of interest from different design teams. Councilman Heffinger and Fred Himmelreich were part of the review committee which was a lot of work going through all 13 proposals narrowing it down to three which we invited to an interview back in July and based on all that, we are recommending that American Structurepoint from Cleveland be awarded the contract for the design services for this in the amount of \$481,632.00. Mr. Shields moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Motion passed 7-0.

17. Executive Session (imminent litigation)

It was moved by Mr. Shields and seconded by Mr. Simpson to enter into Executive Session at 6:12 p.m. for conferences with the City's Law Director concerning disputes involving the City which are the subject of pending or imminent court action. The roll was called and motion passed by the yea votes of B. Lamb, P. Rose, J. Shields, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, J. Hazeltine, and E. Heffinger. Executive session adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

The meeting reconvened and there being no further business before the Finance Committee, the meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

John M. Coyne, Chairman